
Children's Oral Health

Definition: Children, ages 1-17, who have not visited a dentist or dental clinic for any reason within the past year.

Prevalence of Children's Oral Health

- South Dakota 20.8%
- There is no nationwide median for children, ages 1-17, who haven't been to the dentist in the past year

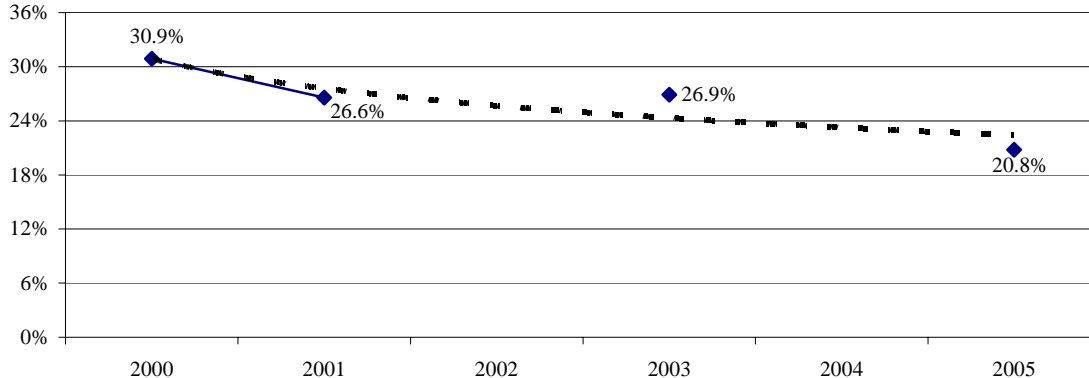
Healthy People 2010 Objective

There was no stated Healthy People 2010 Objective for children, ages 1-17, who haven't been to the dentist in the past year.

Trend Analysis

Overall, the percent of children who have not visited a dentist or dental clinic for any reason within the past year has been decreasing since the question was first asked in 2000.

Figure 38
Children, Ages 1-17, Who Have Not Visited a Dentist or Dental Clinic for Any Reason Within the Past Year, 2000, 2001, 2003, and 2005



Source: The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, South Dakota Department of Health, 2000, 2001, 2003, and 2005

Demographics

Gender	There was no gender difference observed from the available regarding dental visits in the past year for children.
Age	The lack of a dental visit in the past year is significantly higher for children in the 0-4 age group than those children five years old or older.
Race	There are no racial differences observed from the available data regarding dental visits for children.
Region	There are no regional differences demonstrated by the available data regarding dental visits for children.

Household Income

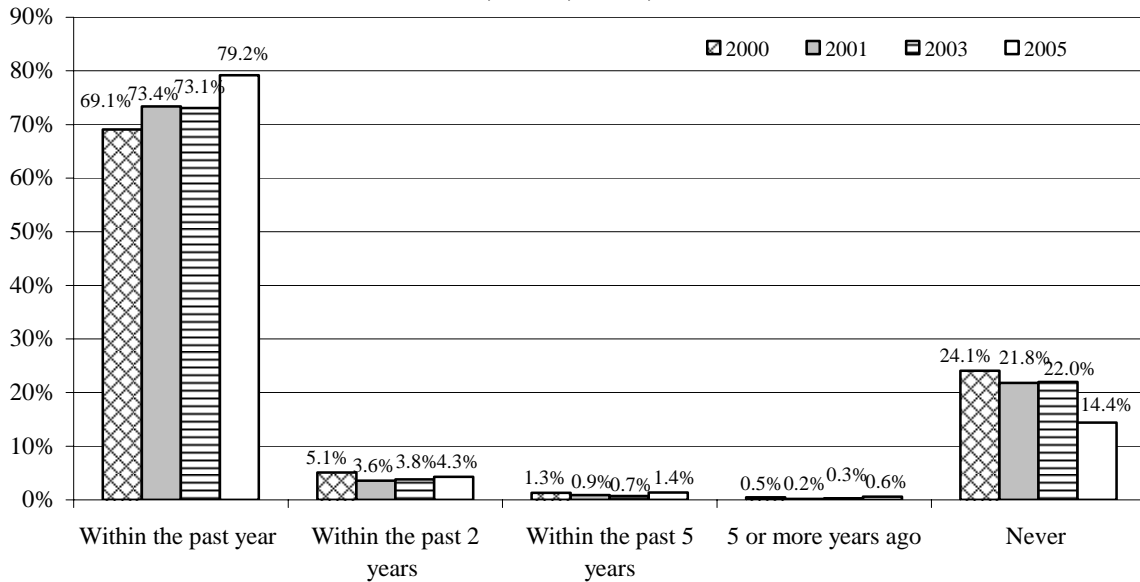
Those children in the higher income groups demonstrate a lower percentage of those without a dental visit in the past year than those in the lower income groups.

Table 45 Children, Ages 1-17, Who Haven't Been to a Dentist in Past Year, 2005			
Demographics	# Respondents	% No Dentist in Past Year	95% CI
Total	1,774	20.8	(18.6-23.1)
<u>Gender</u>			
Male	884	22.6	(19.5-26.1)
Female	890	18.9	(16.1-22.2)
<u>Age</u>			
1-4	397	57.3	(51.3-63.1)
5-9	443	10.6	(7.7-14.4)
10-14	528	8.0	(5.6-11.3)
15-17	406	10.5	(7.7-14.2)
<u>Race</u>			
White	1,457	20.9	(18.6-23.5)
American Indian	248	18.3	(13.0-25.2)
<u>Region</u>			
Southeast	416	18.4	(14.7-22.8)
Northeast	382	19.4	(15.4-24.2)
Central	303	26.3	(20.8-32.7)
West	429	23.8	(19.6-28.6)
American Indian Counties	244	21.1	(15.5-28.0)
<u>Household Income</u>			
Less than \$20,000	227	28.2	(21.6-36.0)
\$20,000-\$24,999	141	34.7	(25.6-45.0)
\$25,000-\$34,999	221	20.7	(15.2-27.6)
\$35,000-\$49,999	372	23.6	(18.7-29.4)
\$50,000-\$74,999	364	17.1	(13.1-21.9)
\$75,000+	331	13.7	(9.8-18.8)

Source: The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, South Dakota Department of Health, 2005

For all four years displayed in Figure 39, on the next page, the majority of children ages 1 to 17 had visited the dentist or a dental clinic within the past year. In 2005, 79.2 percent had visited the dentist or a dental clinic within the past year compared to 69.1 percent in 2000.

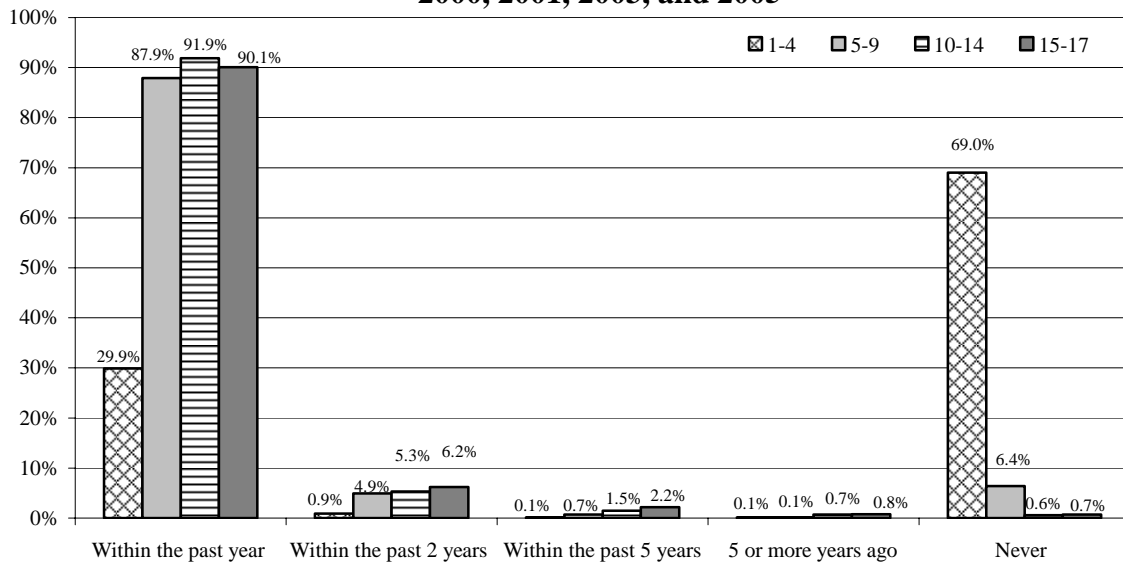
Figure 39
Length of Time Since Child Visited the Dentist or Dental Clinic by Year,
2000, 2001, 2003, and 2005



Source: The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, South Dakota Department of Health, 2000, 2001, 2003, and 2005

Figure 40, below, displays the length of time since child visited the dentist or dental clinic by child's age. When looking at the 1 to 4 year old age group, the majority, 69.0 percent, have never been to the dentist compared to the three other age groups who all had fewer than 10 percent who had never seen a dentist.

Figure 40
Length of Time Since Child Visited the Dentist or Dental Clinic by Child's Age,
2000, 2001, 2003, and 2005



Source: The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, South Dakota Department of Health, 2000, 2001, 2003, and 2005

The main reason why children ages 1 to 17 had not visited the dentist within the past year was because they had no reason to go i.e. no problems, no teeth. In 2005, 72 percent stated their children had no reason to go to the dentist within the past year compared to 72.8 percent in 2000. Table 46 below displays this.

Table 46 Main Reason Child Has Not Visited Dentist in the Last Year, 2000, 2001, 2003, and 2005				
	2005	2003	2001	2000
Number of Respondents	392	407	402	471
No reasons to go (no problems, no teeth)	72.0%	80.6%	68.5%	72.8%
Cost	6.5%	7.4%	2.9%	5.8%
Have not thought of it	5.9%	2.4%	7.5%	2.7%
Cannot get to the office/clinic	3.7%	1.2%	0.9%	0.1%
Fear, apprehension, nervousness, pain, dislike going	2.8%	0.0%	1.6%	2.1%
Do not have/know a dentist	2.0%	0.6%	0.8%	0.6%
Other priorities	1.5%	1.5%	0.5%	1.5%
Other	5.6%	6.2%	17.3%	14.3%

Source: The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, South Dakota Department of Health, 2000, 2001, 2003, and 2005

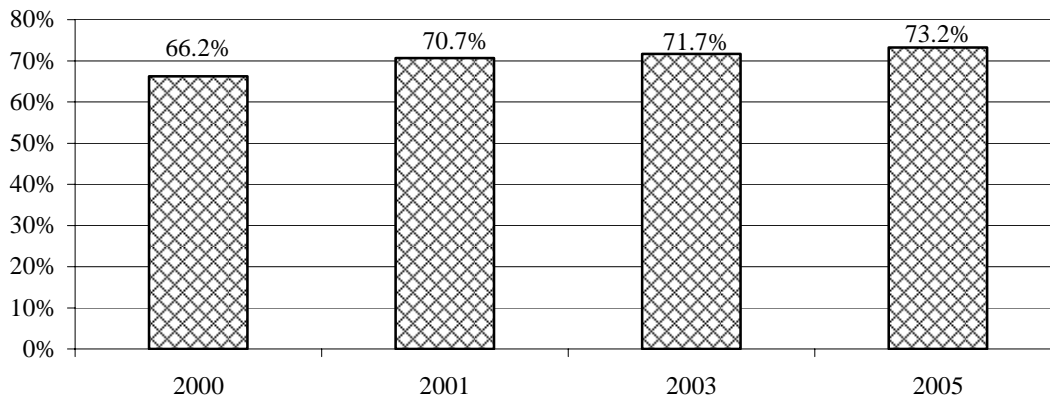
Table 47, below, displays the main reason why child has not visited the dentist in the past year by child's age. When looking at the 1 to 4 year old age group, the majority, 83.4 percent, did not have a reason to go compared to the three other age groups, all with fewer than 52 percent reporting not having a reason to go to the dentist.

Table 47 Main Reason Child Has Not Visited Dentist in the Last Year by Child's Age, 2000, 2001, 2003, and 2005				
	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-17
No reasons to go (no problems, no teeth)	83.4%	50.8%	43.0%	48.9%
Cost	0.5%	12.6%	24.3%	24.4%
Have not thought of it	3.1%	12.5%	5.2%	4.8%
Cannot get to the office/clinic	0.1%	3.1%	7.6%	3.2%
Fear, apprehension, nervousness, pain, dislike going	0.1%	4.3%	3.2%	8.5%
Do not have/know a dentist	0.8%	1.1%	1.1%	1.4%
Other priorities	0.3%	5.1%	4.7%	1.3%
Other	11.8%	10.4%	10.9%	7.5%

Source: The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, South Dakota Department of Health, 2000, 2001, 2003, and 2005

Figure 41, on the next page, displays the majority of respondents who stated that they do have some kind of insurance that pays for some or all of their child's routine dental care. In 2005, 73.2 percent stated they did have some kind of insurance coverage that pays for some or all of their child's routine dental care compared to 66.2 percent in 2000.

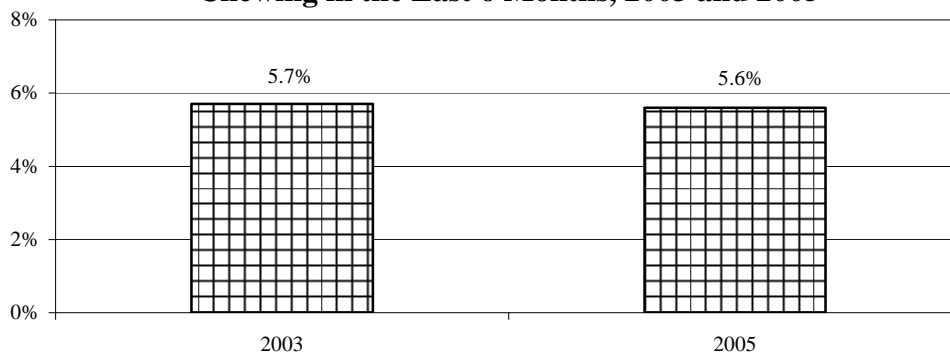
Figure 41
Respondents Who Have Any Kind of Insurance Coverage That Pays for Some or All of This Child's Routine Dental Care, 2000, 2001, 2003, and 2005



Source: The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, South Dakota Department of Health, 2000, 2001, 2003, and 2005

Figure 42, below, displays the percent of children who had a toothache more than once when biting or chewing in the last six months. Overall, the percent of children who had a toothache decreased slightly from 5.7 percent in 2003 to 5.6 percent in 2005.

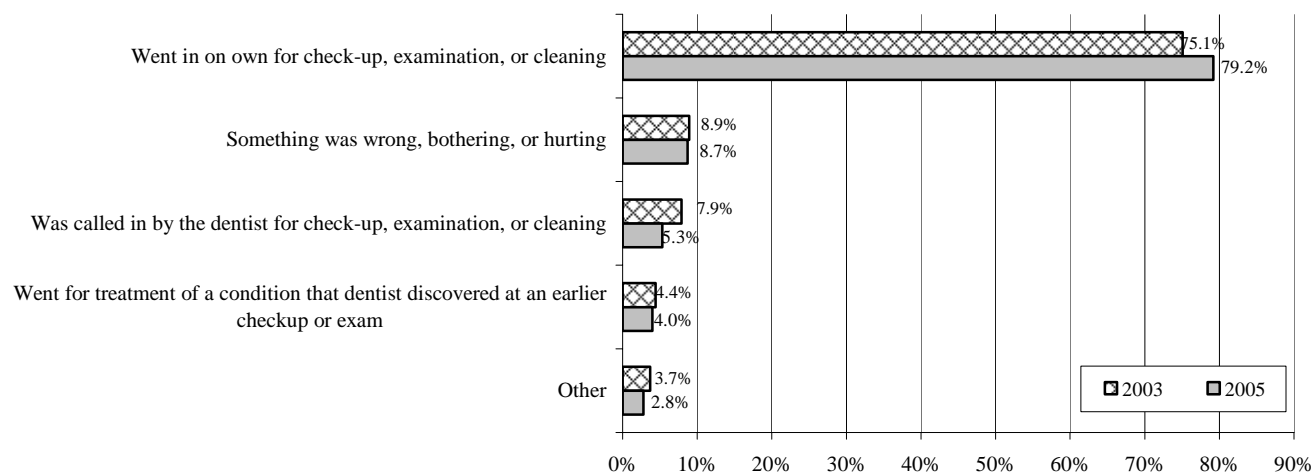
Figure 42
Children Who Had Toothache More Than Once, When Biting or Chewing in the Last 6 Months, 2003 and 2005



Source: The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, South Dakota Department of Health, 2003 and 2005

The main reason why children last visited a dentist in 2003 and 2005 was because they went in on their own for check-up, examination, or cleaning with 75.1 percent of children respondents in 2003 and 79.2 percent of children respondents in 2005 as illustrated on the next page in Figure 43.

Figure 43
Respondents' Main Reason That Child Last Visited a Dentist, 2003 and 2005



Source: The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, South Dakota Department of Health, 2003 and 2005